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1895-1896

Second Annual Report

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Montana State Reform School

FOR THE

Year Ending December 1st, 1895.



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Second Annual Report

OF THE

Montana State Reform School

FOR THE

Year Ending December 1st, 1895.

HELENA, MONTANA:
STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
STATE PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1896.

OFFICERS.

SUPERVISING BOARD.

Governor, John E. Rickards..... Helena.
Att'y Gen'l Henri J. Haskell Helena.
Sec'y of State L. Rotwitt Helena.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

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Hon. C. R. Middleton Miles City.
Hon. H. B. Wiley, Sec'y..... Miles City.

PHYSICIAN.

Dr. W. W. Andrus Miles City.

DIRECTOR.

A. J. Hylton.

MATRON.

Mrs. Helen R. Hylton.

ASSISTANT OFFICERS.

IRRIGATOR AND CARE OF STOCK.

E. K. Davis.

GARDENER AND IN CHARGE OF BOYS.

Jas. George.

TEAMSTER.

R. N. Wilcox.

NIGHT WATCHMAN.

Albert Baker.

TEACHER IN BOYS DEPARTMENT.

Miss Ella Hood.

TEACHER IN GIRLS DEPARTMENT.

Miss Emily Kennedy.

SEAMSTRESS.

Mrs. Eva Humphrey.

IN CARE OF DINING ROOMS.

Miss Katherine Kinsella.

COOK.

Miss Mary McGovern.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Board:

By direction of Section 3082 Penal Code, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the Second Annual Report of this Institution, year ending December 1, 1895.

	Boys	Girls
Number on roll December 1, 1895.....	43	7
Number received during the year.....	28	2
Number pardoned by the Governor.....	1
Released on age.....	5	
Paroled by Trustees.....	5	
Escaped.....	1	
Returned from escape.....	1	
Whole number enrolled.....	64	

The year just closed has been a very busy one. Beside doing the regular work of the institution we have erected a brick barn 40'x80' two stories high. In this are stalls for nine horses and nine cows, two box stalls for young stock, one crib, one feed room, one harness room and two rooms for the boys and officers and sufficient mow room for eighty tons of hay. This is considered one of the best barns in the state.

We also have under process of construction a cottage which will accomodate eighty boys.

In the basement are two gymnasiums also a small room to be used as a Bake Shop.

First floor contains two wash-rooms 20' 3"x28", a dining room 29' 9"x50' 6" for boys, and one 20' 3"x20' 3" for officers, a kitchen 20' 3"x29' 9", a hospital 20' 3"x31' 3" and one living room 14' 3"x20' 3".

Second floor contains two school-rooms 25' 3"x40' 3" each, two clothes-rooms 10' 6"x21' 6" each, five living rooms 16' 6"x 20' 6", one bath-room 8' 6"x20' 6" for employees, also a hall 9' 6"x65".

Third floor contains two dormitories 40' 3"x53' 8", one living room 21'x21' 6", two clothes rooms 10' 6"x20' 6".

Our Boys have done the greater portion of the work on these two buildings, thus enabling many of them to become fair mason's and carpenters. The boys showing the greater disposition to learn masonry were kept at it till the work was completed. The same being true with the carpenters, as I deemed it more advisable to give those desiring to learn the trade, the chance to accomplish all they could during this seasons work, than to give all of them a smattering of the work whether they had a taste for it or not.

Beside the great good this work has done our boys it has been a great saving to the tax-payers of the state and enabled us to get a larger and better building for the money appropriated.

A small house has been built over our root-cellar which we intend using for a Hennery and carpenter shop. Beside being of use for these purposes it will be of great help in keeping the cellar warm.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL.

The farm consists of one hundred acres located one and one-fourth miles east of Miles City, in the fertile valley of the Yellowstone. From the tower of the building one gets a good view of this the swiftest navigable river on the globe, and its tributary the Tongue River, and their valleys for many miles. The soil is a sandy loam and the productions far exceed all expectations, sixty acres of the farm were purchased the 26th of last April, all but three acres have been cleared and thirty-five acres were put under cultivation this season. With some leveling every foot of the farm can be put under a high state of cultivation.

The buildings are of brick, the one occupied now is 50'x100' three stories high, the one under process of construction is 53'x105' and is also three stories.

The institution is lighted throughout with electricity furnished by the Electric Light and Water Co., of Miles City.

ROOT CELLAR.

This magnificent cellar has been binned so as to allow fresh air to circulate entirely around each bin. Its capacity is sufficient for all the vegetables the school can consume during the year.

LAWNS.

We are being rewarded for our hard labor and expense, by beautiful lawns. Last spring we planted one hundred American elm, one hundred Lombardy Poplar, fifty Balm Gilead, two hundred native cottonwood, one hundred and fifty assorted fruit trees and the per cent of loss was small, not to exceed one dozen trees.

I have tried transplanting the native pines in every position, I could learn of, and at all times of the year, but have only saved seventeen out of seven hundred and fifty transplanted, these were dug up while the ground was frozen and hauled in with two feet of earth frozen to the roots, this I think is the best way to get them to live, yet I lost so many that were treated so that I am not certain and have about given up all hope of getting them to live in this soil.

ORCHARD.

This consists of over three hundred assorted fruit trees, they have made a rapid growth and the prospect for an orchard is good. The soil around each one was thoroughly soaked just before the cold weather set in and we believe this will save the trees from heaving during the thaws and freezes in the spring.

GARDEN.

This has been an exceptionally bad season for this work yet we have succeeded in raising enough vegetables for our use.

Currants and gooseberries, those that were planted one year ago made an excellent growth and to these have been added five hundred of each, and in two years they will produce all the school can consume.

Strawberries, last fall a part of the patch was covered with the very best stable manure and the balance with tomato vines.

Those covered so carefully with manure died while the ones covered with vines lived and made a good stooling this season.

PRODUCTS.

Asparagus, from two year old roots.....	300 pounds
Beans, green.....	1,200 "
Beans, dry.....	2,100 "
Beets, table.....	2,400 "
Beets, stock.....	72,000 "
Cabbage, early.....	500 "
Cabbage, late.....	50,000 "
Carrots, table.....	6,000 "
Carrots, stock.....	14,000 "
Celery.....	5,000 bunch's
Corn, roasting ears.....	350 dozen
Corn, dried.....	600 pounds
Corn, Brown Madura.....	10,000 "
Corn, broom.....	150 "
Cucumbers, sliced.....	1,400 "
Cucumbers, pickled.....	4 bbl.
Lettuce.....	20,000 heads
Melon—The hard frost of September 14, ruined the entire crop, about four car loads of fine melons would have been ripe in a few days.	
Millet.....	2,000 pounds
Onions, green.....	1,200 "
Onions, dry.....	19,500 "
Onion seed.....	10 "
Parsnips.....	8,000 "
Peas, green.....	2,500 "
Peas, dried for seed.....	60 "
Potatoes, early.....	4,000 "
Potatoes, late.....	52,000 "
Pumpkins.....	60,000 "
Radishes.....	1,100 "
Rhubarb.....	4,000 "
Rutabaga.....	4,500 "
Salsify.....	6,000 "
Sour-Kraut.....	4 bbl.
Spinach.....	1,200 heads
Squash.....	70,000 pounds
Tomatoes, frozen September 14.....	6,000 "
Turnips.....	85,000 "

PRODUCTS OF THE FARM.

Corn, Frozen September 14.....	21,000 pounds
Fodder.....	45,000 "
Oats.....	40,000 "

LIST OF FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

Sulky Breaking Plow.....	1
Stubble Plow.....	1
Disc Harrow.....	1
Tooth Harrow.....	1
Single cultivator.....	2
Double Shovel Plow.....	1
Cutting box.....	1
Road Wagons.....	3
Spring Wagons.....	1
Double Harness, heavy.....	3½ set
Double Harness, light.....	1 set

Buggy Harness.....	1
Saddle.....	1
Bridle.....	1
Horse blankets.....	3

LIST OF GARDEN TOOLS.

Hoes.....	31
Mattocks.....	15
Mower, Lawn.....	1
Rakes.....	20
Shovels.....	19
Scoops.....	3
Spades.....	24
Drill.....	1

LIST OF CARPENTERS TOOLS.

Axe.....	1
Brace.....	1
Bitts.....	7
Bar.....	1
Drawing Knife.....	1
Chisel.....	2
Hammers.....	6
Hatchets.....	1
Hand-axe.....	2

THE STOCK CONSISTS OF

Horses.....	7
Cows, dry.....	2
Cows, giving milk.....	6
Heifers, two years old.....	2
Calves, weanlings.....	1

HOGS.

Brood Sows.....	9
Hogs, 200 pounds.....	2
Shoats, 50 pounds to 70 pounds.....	19
Shoats, 30 pounds to 40 pounds.....	1
Suckling Pigs.....	6
Boar.....	1
Total.....	41

You can see by the following table that some of our children have been detained in jail for many weeks notwithstanding the fact that the law allows the Judges of the District Courts to commit children either in chambers or in term time.

Time spent in jail before and after trial of those committed during the year.

	Boys	Girls
One day.....	2	
Two days.....	1	
One to two weeks.....	9	2
Two to three weeks.....	1	
Three to four weeks.....	7	
Four to five weeks.....	1	
Eight weeks.....	3	
Twelve weeks.....	2	
Not in jail.....	2	

Their ages are—	Boys	Girls
Eight.....	9	2
Nine.....	2	
Ten.....	2	1
Eleven.....	3	
Twelve.....	1	
Thirteen.....	4	1
Fourteen.....	6	
Fifteen.....	2	3
Sixteen.....	3	
Seventeen.....	9	
Eighteen.....	3	
Nineteen.....	3	
Twenty.....	1	
Those committed this year were for the crime of—		
Burglary.....	4	
Forgery.....	1	
Grand Larceny.....	4	
Incorrigibility.....	10	1
Petit Larceny.....	4	
Rape.....	1	
Vagrancy.....	4	1
Showing nationalities of Parents—		
Americans.....	19	4
Canada.....	3	
Finland.....	1	
German.....	4	
Irish.....	5	
Negro.....	1	1
Welsh.....	2	
Unknown.....	4	
Social and domestic relation of children—		
Both parents living.....	21	1
Both parents dead.....	4	2
Mother living.....	11	5
Mother dead.....	4	2
Father living.....	5	1
Father dead.....	11	6
Mother and Stepfather.....	7	4
Mother and Stepmother.....	1	1
Father and Stepmother.....	4	1
Father and Stepfather.....	3	
Stepfather and Stepmother.....	1	
Father and mother separated.....	7	1
Parents who use intoxicants.....	2	1
Mothers who use intoxicants.....	3	5
Fathers who use intoxicants.....	9	2
Children who use intoxicants.....	4	3
Father used tobacco.....	25	7
Mother used tobacco.....	1	
Children used tobacco.....	27	
Showing birthplace of children—		
Canada.....	2	
Colorado.....	1	
England.....	1	
Finland.....	1	
Idaho.....	1	
Illinois.....	2	
Iowa.....	1	1
Ireland.....	1	
Kansas.....	1	1
Minnesota.....	7	
Michigan.....	1	

	Boys	Girls
Montana	9	4
New York.....	1	
Nevada.....	2	
Ohio.....	3	
Pennsylvania	1	
South Dakota	1	
Utah	1	
Wyoming	2	
Wisconsin.....	1	1
Number from each County—		
Cascade	9	1
Choteau.....	1	
Custer.....	1	1
Fergus	4	3
Gallatin.....	1	1
Jefferson	1	
Lewis and Clarke	7	
Missoula	3	
Park.....	4	
Silver Bow	2	1
Yellowstone.....	2	
Education of children before commitment—		
Could not read	5	3
Could read in First Reader.....	1	
Could read in Second Reader	4	
Could read in Third Reader.....	10	
Could read in Fourth Reader	12	3
Could read in Fifth Reader	6	1
Arithmetic—		
Had not studied arithmetic	11	1
Had studied intermediate.....	18	2
Had studied beyond fractions.....	7	
Were well advanced		
Geography—		
Had not studied Geography.....	15	4
Had studied Primary.....	14	2
Had studied Advanced.....	7	1
Writing—		
Could not Write.....	8	3
Could write names	1	
Could write legible	32	1

SCHOOLS.

To give the larger boys the full benefit of masonry and carpentry they were detained from school to finish the brick work but now that that work has been completed all are assigned to school and are studying to make up for the time spent at their trade. They attend as last year one half of each day and are employed at different work the other half.

The laundry work is yet being done in the small room intended for a pantry, Mrs. Eva Humphrey had charge of this department during the year and although she worked under very great disadvantages the work was satisfactory, but I hope

before another year to have better accommodations for laundry work.

Miss May McGovern has charge of the kitchen and with the help of four boys does the baking and cooking for the entire school. The range becoming too small for the increased number of children forced us to purchase a Bakers oven. This is being set up, and will lighten the work.

DISCIPLINE.

I am pleased to state the discipline of the school is good. The boys and girls realize the necessity of good order and each strive to excel the other in good behavior. One boy who expected to be released in three weeks, for some unknown reason, made his escape. He was (by his right age) over twenty-three years old, so no reward was offered for him.

HEALTH.

There has been very little sickness and no contagious disease amongst us. The ladies of the school make it their duty to give their mother's treatment to each ailing one and they are soon at their regular duties.

NEEDS OF THE SCHOOL.

First—More land, the farm now consists of one hundred acres, this is just one-sixth as much as it should be, with more land we could raise hay, corn and oats enough for our stock and it would enable us to raise more hogs, cattle and sheep, thereby making us more self supporting.

Second—A good dairy, there is nothing better for growing children than plenty of good milk, this we can not have until our farm is enlarged.

Third—Cold storage, we are in sore need of some place where we can keep our meat, butter and milk.

Fourth—Bath Room, "cleanliness is next to godliness," a school can not prosper without the bath room. I hope we will be able to build a good room for the plunge and spray bath in connection with our intended Boiler House.

Fifth—A system of dry closets, sewerage to the river, which is nearly two miles away, would be very expensive and I sug-

gest you investigate the "Dry Closet System," and urge our next legislative assembly to appropriate for that purpose.

Sixth—Dynamo. It will be a saving to the state and of great benefit to our boys if we could generate our own electricity. It would pay for itself in three years, beside giving the boys a chance to learn that trade.

Seventh—Printing. This is the most valuable trade from an educational standpoint that can be introduced into a Reform School. Boys learn punctuation, capitalization and composition faster at the printer's case than in a school room and for the educational advantages I hope we can introduce the trade the coming year.

Eighth—Fencing. All fences are in poor condition, enough lumber, for the north line fence, has been ordered, but we need a good fence in front of the school and cross fences.

I return my grateful thanks to my faithful employees who have labored earnestly for fourteen hours each day in their efforts to reform the erring ones under their care, and to the press of Miles City and other cities of the state for kindly notices and support. To the christian people of the state for magazines and papers sent us. And to you Hon. Trustees for the support you have given me and mine at all times and the confidence you have in our management of the School.

Very Respectfully,

A. J. HYLTON,

Director.

